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From: jfptoy@aol.com [mailto:jfptoy@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 6:43 PM

To: ViceChairman.Howard

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Subject: SCE&G Price Increase over the next 18 Months +9.5%

Dear Vice Chairman Howard:

First thank you for your service. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as the crushing decisions on how to manage for the public good becomes even more difficult in a difficult economy. As a commissioner for District One for the Public Service Commission, it's my understanding that you have responsibility and oversight of the utilities in our District.

In the newspaper the other day, I read with extreme interest, the intent of SCE&G raising prices by 9.5% over the next 18 months. I want you to know that a group of us here on Isle Of Palms are horrified at that prospect, when the rates have been inching up for the last several years with no one to slow it, down on the horizon.

I understand very well, if businesses have increased expenses they must find a way to pass them along to consumers, or to reduce expenses in other areas to absorb those expenses. I don't think enough of the ladder has been done or thought through, since price increase to consumers historically have been the easiest alternative.

The crush of the worst economic recession in our lifetimes has brought about: a downturn in retirement investments / income.....the loss of jobs.....Loss of homes.....increase in business & personal bankruptcies.....the reduction of consumer disposable income..... resulting in reduced pricing in almost all consumer goods.....but not electricity (+9.5% price increase proposal for the next 18 months) I must admit, I don't get it! Do you?

Thank you for reading this and God Bless,

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